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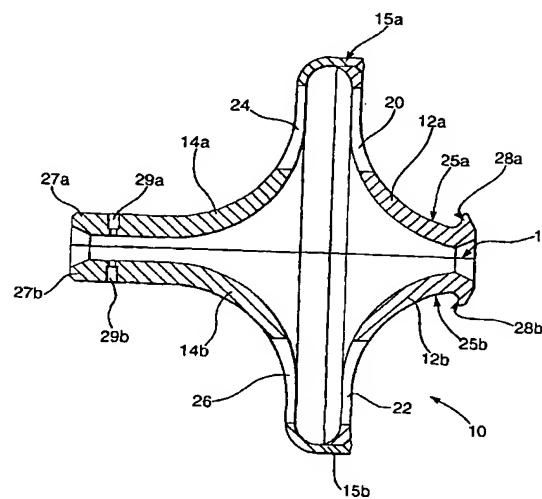
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(57) **Abstract:** Described herein is a splice chamber (10) for accommodating excess optical cable obtained when making a fusion (16) for the optical cable. The chamber (10) comprises two portions (12a, 12b, 14a, 14b) which define a space but each end is retained until conditions are suitable for release. The space (16) inside of the chamber (10) is shaped to determine the bend radius for the enclosed optical cable and protects the cable during storage and handling. When a predetermined force is applied to one end (27a, 27b) of the chamber (10), the two longitudinal half portions separate to release the optical cable stored therein, pivoting about the other end (28a, 28b).

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